

REMARKS

In view of the cancellation of claims 1-31 and 44-72, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that claims 32-43 be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the Applicants' Attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176
Phone: (703) 683-0500

Date: April 2, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



JUSTIN J. CASSELL
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 46,205